

## State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations GUBERNATORIAL PROCLAMATION

## Maritime Day

Whereas, the Propeller Club of the United States is dedicated to the enhancement and well being of all interests of the maritime community on a national basis; with its local chapter, Port of Narragansett Bay, encompassing members from Cape Cod, Fall River, New Bedford, and all of Rhode Island; and

Whereas, the main objectives of the Propeller Club are to promote, further and support an American merchant marine, including shipyards and other allied industries, ensuring their adequacy to meet the requirements of national security and the economic welfare of the United States; to promote waterborne commerce and the marine industry, collaborating with other organizations dedicated to American maritime shipping and allied industries; and to promote a spirit of friendship and common purpose of persons engaged in the American merchant marine and allied industries; and

Whereas, the Port of Narragansett Bay chapter includes members of many related industries such as pilots, towboat operators, shipyard and terminal operators, ships' agents, marine surveyors and lawyers, stevedores and longshoremen as well as others; and

Whereas, by means of a joint resolution in 1933, Congress designated the first National Maritime Day to mark the first successful Atlantic crossing by a vessel using steam propulsion, and each year on this day, men and women from the United States currently serving in the American merchant marine are honored, along with the many seamen who lost their lives in World War II and those who served with dedication and valor ever since: and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Lincoln D. Chafee, Governor of the State of Rhode Island do hereby proclaim May 23, 2011 as Maritime Day in the State of Rhode Island and encourage all citizens to recognize the importance of this day.

Given under my hand and the great seal of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations, this 23 Rb day of May, 2011

> Lincoln D. Chafee Governor

A. Ralph Mollis

Secretary of State